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## MINISTRY TO SERVICEMEN TAKES A TURN

An expanded off-base Center service for U.S. Marines stationed at Iwakuni Air Base on southeastern Honshu is hoped for as a result of the Consultation on Ministry to Service Personnel held Friday, March 26, between a team of five persons from the Committee on Ministry to Chaplains and Service Personnel of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and a group of Japanese church leaders and local church pastors and missionaries involved in counseling American servicemen in Japan.

The five-man U.S. team, under the leadership of Dr. Raymond A. Gray, spent two days in the area of the Iwakuni Marine Air Base, a base scheduled to remain, in the present timetable of operations. The team spent Friday at the Consultation in Tokyo. On Saturday it talked separately with leaders of International Social Service, the Pacific (military) Counseling Service and Beheiren. In the evening members made a night visit to the U.S. Navy port city of Yokosuka, continuing on to Korea on Monday.

In the background of the team's visit swirled two eddies: one, a recent questioning of whether to continue the present off-base Iwakuni Servicemen's Center, which the NCCCUSA has been supporting since 1954, and two, the recent increased activity on the part of Japanese and non-Japanese Christians in counselling servicemen outside the scope of the Center's program.

At the Consultation on Friday, Dr. Theopilos M. Taylor, secretary of the General Council of the General Assembly of The United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. reported, "At Iwakuni we talked with the Commanding Officer of the base, chaplains and servicemen. They all believe the Center should be continued, as the only alternative to the worst types of recreation that are to be found in the area."

This view of the purpose of the Center as primarily one of being an alternative to bad influences in the community was an attitudes challenged by Japanese participants, however. Rev. Karl Karpa, director of the Iwakuni Center, explained that heretofore the aim of the Center has been to be a place for wholesome recreation for servicemen, intercultural relationships, cultural education.

"But," Karpa went on, "I have really changed in my whole outlook on the need for program changes in the Center. In my contacts with the Iwakuni Five (the four pastors and one missionary working in the area) I have come to see how important conscientious objector counseling is. The Center needs to be open to any man, for C.O. counseling, for marriage counseling, the problems of racial discrimination, dissension on the base, etc.--and to be a sounding board for men to reflect their own views."

## EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

John M. Nakajima, Helen Post, Stan Manierre

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### MISSIONARIES ASK HASTENED END TO INDOCHINA HOSTILITIES

Ninety-nine missionaries attending the Kyodan-related Missionary Conference held in Tozanso, Gotemba, March 30-April 1, signed the following Open Letter to United States President Richard A. Nixon:

As members of the missionary community in Japan, endeavoring to be true to our faith, and as Christians concerned about the extension of the Indochina War into Cambodia and Laos, resulting in further destruction and death to both combatants and noncombatants, we call upon the American government to take all necessary measures to hasten an end to hostilities. We urge a complete and prompt withdrawal of all foreign troops and an end to the policy of Vietnamization, believing that this policy is irreconcilable with sincere negotiations for peace. We call for international negotiations which include all parties to the conflict, under the auspices of the UN or some other international agency, to end the war in Indochina and to begin immediately planning for rehabilitation.

The letter, in addition to being sent to the President, was released to English- and Japanese-language newspapers and news services.

### HOFFMAN SUFFERS BURNS IN PLUNGE INTO HOT SPRINGS

Lutheran POPVer Greg Hoffman sustained serious injuries on March 24 when he slipped into a spring of hot muddy sulphur water while touring Noboribetsu, Hokkaido, with his wife and guests from the United States.

Hoffman is reported to be recovering slowly after an extremely critical period, but a long period of hospitalization and treatment is anticipated.

Persons concerned for the young Lutheran missionary and his wife, who came to Japan last year and who have been working in Asahigawa as members of the Prince of Peace Volunteers movement, have been asked to help through contributions of blood to replace blood used in the medical treatments, and through financial gifts, in view of the extremely heavy medical costs and the absence of any medical insurance. Blood donors are asked to give at local blood banks indicating that the blood is to replace that used at Sapporo Idai Hospital for Gregory Hoffman. Monetary contributions can be sent to the Prince of Peace Volunteers, Tokyo Lutheran Center, 2-32 Fujimil-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102, Japan.

### ASIAN DEVELOPMENT--FOR WHOM?

Japanese and foreign laymen are being invited to attend a dialogue meeting planned particularly for Christian business men and sponsored jointly by the National Christian Council Division of Mission, the Japan Catholic Council, and foreign language congregations in Japan.

Speaker at the April 19 meeting, to be held at the Franciscan Chapel Center, Roppongi, will be Isamu Takagi, executive director, Nichimen Co., Ltd. Young Kimm, general manager for control data of Far East Incorporate will serve as "reactor". In smaller groups following the main presentations, persons will be invited to discuss in their own languages.

The April 19 meeting, described as composed of "an unofficial group of global Christians," is the outgrowth of a series of sessions held by a small group of business men and church leaders in order to plan ways in which laymen can explore their roles in God's mission in Asia today.



LEE SCORES JAPAN'S INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

Dr. In Ha Lee, general secretary of the Korean Christian Church in Japan and a member of the WCC Commission on the Program to Combat Racism, hit hard at the issue of Japan's economic role in South Africa in his report on the meeting of the Commission held March 22-26 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The problem of racism is exceedingly severe and acute in South African countries, Dr. Lee said. For this reason the Commission is placing its main emphasis on the problem in South Africa, while acknowledging the problem of racism itself exists throughout the world.

Dr. Lee called attention to the book in Japanese, "The Inside Story of the Republic of South Africa--Last Fortress of the Whites" by Masataka Ito of Asahi Shimbun, published by Chuo Koron Shinsho.

Dr. Lee took to the Conference a contribution of \$200 to the Commission from the NCCJ. A campaign to raise further funds to support the work of the Commission will be conducted in the near future.

Dr. Lee reported being impressed with the fact that the program of the Commission has already helped some Western churches discover their responsibility in the liberation movement. He regards as "regrettable" the fact that the churches in one country have split over the emphasis on "white racism" in the Commission's program, but says he feels that this one occurrence cannot stop the onward movement toward the churches taking responsibility for combating racism. "Out of this confrontation--if it is taken very seriously--I think the church will become the Church," observed Lee.

SEMINARY SCENE

Eleven seminaries in Japan are graduating 66\* students this spring, according to a survey conducted by JCAN. Out of the 66, thirty are reported going into the parish ministry, five into schools, seven into social work institutions and fourteen on to further studies.

Below is the tabulation of responses received. Central Theological College, in Tokyo, is graduating no students this year due to a recess in the middle of last year.

<u>School</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Churches</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Insti.</u>	<u>Study</u>
Doshisha School of Theol.	7	7		3 (Ky)	1	1	2
Japan Biblical Seminary	8	5	3	8 (Ky)			
Japan Lutheran College	6	6		1 (L)		1	4
Japan Lutheran Seminary	6	6		4 (EL)			2
Kobe Reformed Seminary	6	6		6 (Ref)			
Kwansei Gakuin	9*	7	2	1 (Ko)	2	4	2
Seinan Gakuin	6	5	1	2 (B)		1	3
Tokyo Bible School	1	1		1 (Ky)			
Tokyo Union Theol. Sem.	10	10		7 (Ky)	2		1
Tsurukawa Rural Institute	5	5		5 (Ky)			
Williams Seminary (Seikokai)	2	1	1	2 (S)			
	66*	59	7	40	5	7	14

\* includes 6 KG undergraduate students

(Ky=Kyodan, L=Lutheran, EL=Evangelical Lutheran, Ref=Reformed Church, Ko=Korean Christian Church in Japan, B=Baptist Convention, S=Seikokai)



NCC CENTRAL COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Forty delegates from member- and associate member churches and organizations attended the semi-annual meeting of the NCC Central Committee held March 26. In the absence of Chairman Makoto Goto, Vice Chairmen Kiyoshi Ii and Takaaki Aikawa presided.

General Secretary John M. Nakajima reported on the activities of the past eight months in the context of the NCC's six primary functions: 1) dialogue among member churches and organizations; 2) information exchange; 3) promotion of grass roots ecumenism; 4) relations with councils overseas; 5) proclamation on the Christian stance on today's social and political issues; 6) joint action involving non-member churches and organizations. Reports were heard from various boards and committees.

In addition the following items were discussed and acted upon.

- o Changes in the personnel of the Division of Service in view of General Secretary Kentaro Buma's WCC assignment (see JCAN No. 385)
- o Ministry to the U.S. service personnel in Japan (see this issue page 1).
- o Approval of statement on the Alien Immigration Bill (JCAN No. 385, March 26, 1971).
- o Information to the effect that a plan is now underway on the part of Minority Peoples' Problems Committee to invite Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr. to Japan this fall to participate in regional conferences designed to stir up the conscience of the Japanese on behalf of the human rights of alien residents.
- o Approval of the Japan Consultation on Mission (Theme: Salvation Today) planned for Sept. 21-24 at Amagi Sanso.
- o Authorization of the visit of Vice Chairman Takaaki Aikawa as NCCJ representative to the Russian Orthodox Church in June.
- o Deliberations on and passing of 1971 general budget of ¥25,885,000.
- o Approval of the by-laws of the Commission on Literature.
- o Appointment of nine members to the Ecumenical Church Loan Fund: Toyozo Mikumo, Saburo Kaneko, Masaaki Maruyama, Arata Ikeda, In Ha Lee, Shin-ichi Yano, Junichi Asano, Matthew Ogawa, Kazuyo Kishimoto; ex-officio: John M. Nakajima, Jo Yamada, Hajime Ogawa.

OKINAWA DIOCESE ISSUE AT SEIKOKAI GENERAL SYNOD

Transfer of the missionary diocese of Okinawa from the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S.A. to the Nippon Sei-ko-kai (Anglican Episcopal Church in Japan) will be the main issue at the 31st triennial general synod of the Nippon Sei-ko-kai to be held April 20-22 at Kawaguchi Christ Church, the Cathedral of the Osaka Diocese.

A bishop, three clergymen and three laymen from each of ten dioceses, members of the National Council of the Nippon-Sei-ko-kai (kyomuin) and guests will attend.

The Missionary Diocese of Okinawa has been related to the Protestant Episcopal Church in the U.S.A. for the past quarter of a century. The last few years have been spent in preparation for the reversion of the diocese to the Nippon-Sei-ko-kai. Last November Bishop E. C. Browning of Okinawa was appointed by the U.S. church as Bishop of the Diocese of Europe and he will leave Okinawa in May. However, it is not yet known what structure will be instituted by the synod.

Other agenda items include the restructuring of various committees, the publication of the official bulletin of the Nippon-Sei-ko-kai, and the presentation of the proposed theme for the next three years.



KYODAN PLANS PRE-ASSEMBLY GATHERING

To help clear the way for the holding of the General Assembly of The United Church of Christ in Japan, postponed from last fall, a special pre-assembly conference will be held June 8-10 at Tozanso.

The Conference will focus attention on two key issues over which serious fissures have occurred in the life of the church: 1) the Confession of Faith, its status and meaning, and the relationship between it and the Confession of War Responsibility, and 2) the ministerial system in the Kyodan, including the meaning of the ministry, related standards and qualifications.

Invited to the Conference will be standing committee members, district moderators, members of the Commission on Mission, members of standing committees, persons recommended by resource persons from interested groups within the church, specialists on topics to be discussed, and staff members. A total conference of about 115 is anticipated.

To be planned as a discussion meeting, resource materials will be distributed ahead of the conference and reports of the discussions at the conference prepared for circulation throughout the churches in advance of the General Assembly, which it is hoped can be held in mid-fall.

Preparatory member committee are Rev. Kichiya Kikuchi, Rev. Tomomi Kimura, Rev. Yoichiro Saeki, Rev. Banri Yamashita, Mr. Shiro Abe, general secretary Toru Takakura, ex-officio, and two staff members.

MISSIONARIES APPEAL TO ALIENS' RIGHTS LIAISON COMMITTEE

The National Liaison Committee to Protect the Human Rights of Alien Residents met April 5 at the Japan Christian Center, participants coming from Osaka as well as from the Kanto area. Rev. Tomomi Kimura, chairman of the NCC Committee on Minority Peoples' Problems, presided.

Reports were heard from Osaka, the NCCJ, and the WCC Commission on the Program to Combat Racism ( see item on page 3). Rev. Tom Paton read the statement in which missionaries attending the recent Kyodan-related Missionaries' Conference in Tozanso, Gotemba, expressed appreciation for NCC's concern and efforts and asked help as to how individual missionaries could discover their responsibility in regard to this matter.

Discussion at the April 5 meeting revealed both the difficulties and the possibilities of the aliens' human rights movement: Main difficulties are the indifference and ignorance of the majority of Christians with regard to the real issues in the proposed immigration bill, and the lack of appropriate structures and funding for tackling the issues raised by the bill.

It was proposed that the liaison committee approach leaders of various denominations asking that the matter of aliens' rights be given serious consideration.

The liaison committee agreed upon three motives as underlying their position of opposition to the bill:

1. The nature of the bill is such that it encourages discrimination by one people of another people, which is contrary to Christian teaching.
2. The bill expresses feelings that are contrary to the Christian attitude toward persons who were the victims of Japan's war of exploitation twenty-five years ago. The Confession of War Guilt leads one naturally to a position of opposition to the bill, which proposes to inflict injustices upon them.

(continued on page 6)



MISSIONARIES APPEAL TO ALIENS' RIGHTS LIAISON COMMITTEE (continued)

3. The bill not only deprives alien residents of their human rights but the whole process by which the bill has been introduced suggests that it will also eventually be developed as an instrument of oppression of the human rights of the Japanese as well.

Directives outlined for the movement of opposition to the immigration bill include: a public drive to solicit signatures opposing the bill; appeals to countries overseas to arouse public opinion; printing and distribution of study materials in both Japanese and English; mass rallies in key cities with a person like Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr. invited to be main speaker.

The NCC Committee on Minority Peoples' Problems was authorized to carry out the details of the plans discussed by the national liaison committee.

# # # # # # # # # # # #  
 # YWCA has published proposed new Immigration law in Japanese. #  
 Copies available for ¥150 per; 10 or more copies ¥100 per,  
 plus postage. Order from Tokyo YWCA, 8-11, Surugadai 1-chome #  
 # Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101 Tel. 293-5421, or pick up at NCC. #  
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SPEAKER PRESENTS NORTH KOREAN SIDE

A group of church women have drawn up steps they can take to help protect the human rights of aliens in Japan and deepen fellowship and understanding between Koreans and Japanese. On March 29 the women heard a personal report from a Korean resident in Japan who identifies himself with North Korea, as one program in their continuing series of study meetings.

Some ten women are members of the study group organized within the National Federation of Kyodan Women's Societies following the first visit of a team of Japanese women to South Korea in 1968, to apologize for Japan's acts of oppression against Korea and establish a basis for future fellowship. They have had talks with Christian Korean leaders and young people and have become aware of their various problems.

With the division of the Korean peninsula making fellowship with the people of North Korea difficult, it was their desire to hear the North Korean side. Thus they invited as their speaker, T. S. Yung, of Chosen Soren, Tokyo.

Yung described how Korean culture had been destroyed by Japanese, the use of the Korean language forbidden, and Koreans brought to Japan and forced into heavy labor. Koreans were freed from this at the end of the war, but later events brought division of the country, and of the Korean people, with a government emerging in North Korea with which Japan has virtually no contact.

A third group of Koreans are those living in Japan, some of whom identify with South Korea, some with North Korea, and some of whom are indifferent. A proposed immigration bill now under consideration in the Diet would put limitations upon the rights of all aliens in Japan, about 90 per cent of whom are Koreans, or their descendants.

The women identified three areas in which they can be active: one, encouraging the Japanese government to take an impartial stance with regard to the Korean peninsula, assuming a third person role in easing tensions rather than leaning toward one side; second, opposing the pending immigration legislation; third, working to make it possible for persons from all countries to live as free and as good a life as possible in Japan.

(summarized from a report by Mrs. Sekinosuke Zenno to be published in Kyokai Fujin, May issue)



MINISTRY TO SERVICEMEN TAKES A TURN (continued from page 1)

A second issue that concerned the team and the participants from Japan, beyond the nature of the Center program, was the question of the role of military chaplains in relation to the Center. While members of the U.S. team took for granted that the chaplains on the base should be involved in the running of the Center, Japanese were adamant on the fact that, given the strong inclination toward separation of church and state among Christians in Japan, chaplains must not be involved in policy-making or management, although they might serve in an advisory capacity.

Following the Consultation, the NCCJ Central Committee approved a proposal with regard to the Ministry to U.S. Servicemen in Japan, which has been forwarded to the NCCCUSA. The proposal, described as a first step, provides that

- 1) The NCCJ will appoint a National Committee for Ministry to Servicemen which will, in turn appoint a local executive committee for the Iwakuni Servicemen's Center; in the light of the situation in Japan, no chaplain will be appointed to either of the above committees, although a chaplain, together with other interested local persons, may be invited to participate as members of the advisory committee for the program of the Center.
- 2) The Director of the Center will be a missionary affiliated with and appointed by the NCCJ in consultation with member NCCJ churches and the NCCCUSA, this person to be a certified and competent counsellor able to handle all types of counselling situations.
- 3) NCCCUSA-NCCJ financial support for the Iwakuni Servicemen's Center shall go through the NCCJ National Committee on Ministry to Servicemen.

Additional details relating to Japanese financial support for the Center were referred for further study by the Executive Committee in view of the budgetary problems facing the NCCJ this year, although the opinion was expressed by Japanese church leaders, local pastors and by pastors of international congregations in Japan that more financial responsibility should be taken by persons in Japan.

The consultation was marked by some very frank exchanges of opinion that served to highlight the contrasting attitudes toward military service and the military chaplaincy held by American and Japanese participants. One minister stated flatly, "My primary concern is to get rid of the American bases." The broader outlook, however, was, as Rev. Toru Takakura, Kyodan general secretary put it: "Isn't this the proper time to think about a creative thrust for the Center, keeping in mind the policies of the NCCJ, not only from the financial aspect but from all angles? The NCCCUSA and the NCCJ have a good opportunity to cooperate at this very important time."

HANABUSA INVESTIGATES MINISTRY AMONG ASIAN AMERICANS

Enthusiasm greeted George Hanabusa's recent proposal of interchange and cooperation between The United Church of Christ in Japan and Asian American Christians, when he recently visited the West Coast of the United States.

Hanabusa combined visits to 19 congregations, made up predominantly of first and second generation Japanese Americans, with attendance at a Convocation on Asian-American Ministries sponsored by the United Methodist Church, March 12-24, in Santa Monica.

(continued)



HANABUSA INVESTIGATES MINISTRY AMONG ASIAN AMERICANS (continued)

In the itinerary of visits to churches, planned by Peter Chen of the Asian American caucus of The United Methodist Church, Hanabusa discussed with Asian Americans of various denominations the three-pronged ministry now being discussed between The United Methodist Church and the Kyodan. The proposal involves 1) sending pastors from Japan to serve Japanese American congregations; 2) providing 3 to 6 month visits to Japan for 2nd generation pastors of Japanese descent to strengthen ethnic identity; and 3) sending pastors of Japanese descent as missionaries to countries in Asia which have specifically requested persons of Asian background. Plans for future cooperation in these ministries will be drawn up in further detail at a Conference to be held in Hawaii in June.

HEADLINE-MAKING EVENTS

. . . . . compiled by Ichiji Yokota

AN ALL-TIME HIGH IN THE NATION'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES was reported by the Ministry of Finance as the total reached \$5.5 billion as of March 31,  $\frac{1}{2}$  billion up from end of Feb. GNP reached \$196 billion (¥70,617 billion) in 1970, an increase of 11.2% from last year.

PING-PONG TEAMS FROM COMMUNIST CHINA AND NORTH KOREA WERE admitted by the Ministry of Justice for the 31st World Championships in Nagoya. The Communist China team, which has not participated for  $4\frac{1}{2}$  years, won the men's competition, Japan won the women's.

JAPAN'S TWO MAJOR CITY BANKS, DAI-ICHI AND NIPPON KANGYO, signed a merger contract March 25. New Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank is biggest city bank in Japan and ranks 12th in the world. This is the first merger of two major city banks in Japan since the end of World War II.

A NEW AIR ROUTE BETWEEN NIIGATA, JAPAN, AND Khabarovsk, USSR was agreed upon between Japan and USSR. The new route will be used from May.

TWO TAIWANESE YOUTH INVOLVED IN YOUTH LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN Taiwan will be permitted to stay in Japan according to a Tokyo District Court decision overruling the Justice Minister's decision to enforce their repatriation.

"THE JAPANESE AND THE JEW"-BEST SELLER IN JAPANESE which won award for outstanding nonfiction work in 1970--has unidentifiable author. Tokyo Rabbi Tokayer has sharply criticized inaccuracies in the historical and comparative study, published over the name of "Isaiah Ben Dasan."



## CONFESSIONS ARE THEME OF MAY REFORMED THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The Fourteenth Annual Reformed Theological Conference will be held this year at the Oiso Christian Academy House, from 5:00 p.m. on May 11 through noon, May 15. The theme is "Confessing the Faith - the Reformation and Today."

The featured speaker will be Prof. Edward A. Dowey, Jr., Princeton Theological Seminary, noted Calvin scholar and chairman of the Committee which formulated the Confession of 1967 of the United Presbyterian Church in America. Dr. Dowey will lecture twice, once on the significance of confessions in the Reformation and once on the UPUSA Confession of 1967.

The Rev. Nobuo Watanabe, pastor of the "Kokuhaku Church" in Tokyo will lecture on the history and place of confessions in the church in Japan. Watanabe is the translator of several of Calvin's works, including The Institutes and lecture in Church History at the Reformed-Presbyterian (Nihon Kirisuto Kyokai) Seminary in Tokyo. A panel, including Prof. Akira Demura of Tohoku Gakuin University in Sendai, will discuss the status of confessions in the church in Japan today, especially the Confession of The United Church of Christ in Japan. There will also be a biblical study of the nature and role of confessions and a panel of missionaries from various denominations who will consider the function and actual authority of confessions (and creeds) in the church today.

This theological conference, the only one of its kind in Japan, is sponsored by missionaries primarily from the Reformed-Presbyterian tradition, but the conference is ecumenical in spirit and welcomes people (including women) from all backgrounds. In the past, approximately half of the participants have been of non-Reformed denominations.

Members of the planning committee are James Atwood, John Hesselink, James Phillips and John Timmer. Applications, accompanied by a ¥1,000 registration fee, should be sent to Dr. John Timmer, 7-11, Akatsuka 4-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 174.



THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The first part of the book is devoted to the history of the United States from 1776 to 1800. It covers the period of the American Revolution and the early years of the new nation.

The second part of the book is devoted to the history of the United States from 1800 to 1860. It covers the period of the early republic and the years leading up to the Civil War.

The third part of the book is devoted to the history of the United States from 1860 to 1900. It covers the period of the Civil War and the Reconstruction era.

The fourth part of the book is devoted to the history of the United States from 1900 to 1945. It covers the period of the Progressive Era and the years leading up to World War II.

The fifth part of the book is devoted to the history of the United States from 1945 to the present. It covers the period of World War II and the Cold War.